

1512 /742-

Attorney Docket No. 20496/319

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: George P. Wyszomierski Group Art Unit: 1742

Application of

Hans-Jurgen LEISSNER, et al.

Serial No.

10/049,262

Filing Date

June 24, 2002

Entitled

PROCEDURE FOR HARDENING . . .

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Silvia Salvadori

Name of person signing the certification

Silvio Soluciole Signature

May 28, 2004

Dat

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is intended to be fully responsive to the Office Action dated May 14, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: